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**IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re U.S. Patent Application of:

APPLICANT: Lahteenmaki et al

SERIAL NO.: 10/049,199 FILING DATE: 05/09/2003

EXAMINER: Pitts, Harold ART UNIT: 2876

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO.: 876.0001.U1(US)

TITLE: Smart Card Reader

Commissioner for Patents

Alexandria, VA 22313

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Sir:

This paper is herewith filed in response to the Examiner's Office Action mailed on 11/17/2003 for the above-captioned U.S. Patent Application. This paper is deemed to be filed within the shortened statutory period and no petition or fee for an extension of time is required. However, should the undersigned attorney be mistaken, please consider this a petition for any extension of time that may be required to maintain the pendency of this Patent Application, and charge deposit account no.: 50-1924 for any required fee deficiency.

Please amend the application as shown below.